pared to April-November 1990 include Belgium, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Netherlands, U.K., Sweden, Switzerland, Australia, Iran, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Nepal, Hong Kong, Thailand, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Morocoe, Canada, USA, etc.

(c) Our principal exports to the above mentioned countries include plantations, agricultural products, marine products, ores and minerals, leather and leather manufactures, gems engineering goods, electronics and computer software, textiles, handicrafts, carpets, petroleum products, etc. It is difficult to project the value of exports to the individual countries as it depends on a number of factors like availability of export surpluses, demand levels in the importing countries, movement of prices in the international markets, etc.

Raids Conducted under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973

783. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minster of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of arrests made under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 during the last six months;

(b) the details of seizures affected in the raids conducted on the premises of the above persons; and

(c) the details of the persons/firms involved therein, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The data of arrests and seizures under FERA from 1.8.91 to 31.1.92 is given below:

(i)	No. of persons arrested	-	184
(ii)	Indian currency siezed (Rs. in lakhs)	-	361.81
(iii)	Foreign currency seized (Worth Rs. in lakhs).	-	158.16

The records of cases against individuals/firms are not maintained State-wise.

Tax Evasion by Financing Companies

784. SHRI KARIYA MUNDA: Will the Minster of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of a large scale income tax evasion by financing companies particularly in Delhi by allegedly recording false amount of hire-money in the agreement with hirers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). A few cases of tax evasion by financing companies in this manner have come to the notice of the Income-tax Department in the course of investigations in a few cases of Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

Enquiries have revealed that the amount of the money advanced and the rate of interest charged by the financing companies from the hirers and other charges like documentation charges, writer's charges and penalty for belated payments of instalments are not fully recorded in the account books.

(c) Whenever tax evasion in any case comes to the notice of the Income-tax Department, appropriate action is taken to bring the undisclosed income to tax. Penalty and prosecution proceedings are also initiated, if called for.

[*Translation*]

Assistance from Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee

785. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minster of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms laid down for taking assistance from the Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee; and

(b) the number of persons benefited under this scheme during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS, (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) the following norms have been prescribed for obtaining assistance from the Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee:-

I. A person whose income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 12,000/- (Rupees twelve thousand only) per annum; provided that this income ceiling, in appropriate cases, may be relaxed by the President of the Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee, within reasonable limits.

The limitation as to annual income does not apply in cases of disputes where one of the parties belongs to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Vimukta Jatis and Nomadic Tribes or is a woman or a child.

II. Legal Aid may be granted in any individual case or in any case of Public Interest Litigation recommended by the Chairman of the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes.

III. The Committee may also grant legal-aid-